

REMARKS

Claims 19-27 are pending in the present Application. Claims 19, 20, 21, 24, 26, and 27 have been amended, Claims 21 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form, and Claims 28 and 29 have been added, leaving Claims 19-29 for further consideration by the Examiner.

Support for new Claims 28 and 29 can at least be found in Claim 21.

Claims 19, 20, 22, 24, 26 and 27 have been amended to correct the erroneous omission of the word "layer" after "emission element".

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 21-25 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 21 and 24 have been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of base Claim 19, and are therefore allowable. Claims 22-23 and 25, which respectively depend from allowable Claims 21 and 24, are therefore also allowable.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 19, 20, 26 and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,748,271 to Hikmet. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claims 19 and 26 are directed to an electroluminescence display apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, the following element: "a thickness of said first electrode is less than 1/2 a thickness of said emissive element layer".

Claims 20 and 27 are directed to an electroluminescence display apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, the following element: "a thickness of said first electrode is less than 1/3 a thickness of said emissive element layer".

Applicants respectfully submit that nowhere in the portions of Hikmet indicated by the Examiner (Fig. 4; Col. 3 lines 47-65; Col. 7, lines 1-15) discloses the

relationship between the thickness of the first electrode and the thickness of the emissive element layer formed thereon as defined in Applicants' claims.

In Hikmet, an electrode 5 is formed above a substrate, an active layer 7 including an EL layer is formed on the electrode 5, and an electrode 9 is further formed on this active layer 7, as clearly indicated by the Examiner. Further, Hikmet does not specifically disclose the thickness of the electrode 5, which is formed above the substrate and under the active layer 7, and only describes that when PANI is used as a material of the electrode 5, the layer has a square resistance of 1 k Ω /square at a layer thickness of "200 nm", and when PEDOT is used as a material of the electrode 5, the layer has a square resistance of 1 k Ω /square at a layer thickness of "140 nm". Further, Hikmet only discloses, in column 4, lines 49-50, the thickness of the active layer 7 as being in a range between 50 nm and 200 nm.

Applicants' presently claimed invention has a structure in which the emissive element layer is formed on the first electrode and the thickness of the first electrode is at least less than 1/2 (Claims 19 and 26) or less than 1/3 (Claims 20 and 27) of the thickness of the emissive layer. Even if it is assumed that the thickness of the electrode of Hikmet is "200 nm" or "140 nm", it is clear that such a thickness is not less than a half of the thickness of the active layer 7 ranging between 50 nm and 200 nm.

Since Hikmet fails to teach a structure in which the emissive element layer is formed on the first electrode and the thickness of the first electrode is at least less than 1/2 (Claims 19 and 26) or less than 1/3 (Claims 20 and 27) of the thickness of the emissive layer, Hikmet fails to teach at least one element claimed by Applicants' Claims 19, 20, 26, and 27. Accordingly, Claims 19, 20, 26, and 27 are not anticipated and are therefore allowable over Hikmet.

It is believed that the foregoing remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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